A2 Cont.

information, on/off operations of said first and second switching circuits are controlled based on a managing condition shown by said second management information, and when said second management information cannot be detected, said second switching circuit is turned off based on said first management information.

REMARKS

Claims 1-44 remain in the application and have been amended hereby.

As will be noted from the Declaration, Applicants are citizens and residents of Japan and this application originated there.

Accordingly, the amendments to the specification are made to place the application in idiomatic English, and the abstract and claims are amended to place them in better condition for examination.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract by rewriting same to read as follows.

--A recording medium in which a plurality of management information are embedded and recorded into data of contents in a plurality of forms of different remaining intensities, and at least one of the plurality of management information is the management information whose restriction is [severer] more severe than those of the other management information.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-44 by rewriting same to read as follows:

--1. (Amended) A recording medium in which a plurality of management information are embedded and recorded into content data [of contents] in a plurality of forms of different remaining intensities and at least one of said plurality of management information is [the] management information [whose] having a restriction that is [severer] more severe than [those] restrictions of [the] other management information.

--2. (Amended) [A] The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said management information includes at least one

[kind between] of copy management information for managing a copying operation of the content data [of said contents] and reproduction management information for managing a reproducing operation of the content data [of said contents or said recording medium].

--3. (Amended) [A] The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said management information is embedded in the content data [of said contents] in a form of a strong remaining intensity by which said management information remains even if a signal process is executed to the content data [of said contents] and in a form of a weak remaining intensity by which said management information is erased by executing [the] a signal process to the content data [of said contents].

--4. (Amended) [A] The recording medium according to claim 3, wherein said form of [the] a strong remaining intensity by which said management information is embedded in the content data [of said contents] is a form such that said management information is spread-spectrum diffused and multiplexed into the content data [of said contents].

--5. (Amended) [A] The recording medium according to claim 3, wherein said form of the strong remaining intensity by which said management information is embedded in the data of said contents is a form such that said management information is inserted either at one of a first peak [or said] and a second

peak in a predetermined range of the content data [of said contents] or at a position near one of said first [or] peak and said second peak.

--6. (Amended) [A] The recording medium according to claim 3, wherein said form of the weak remaining intensity by which said management information is embedded in the content data [of said contents] is a form such that said management information is inserted into lower bits of the content data [of said contents].

--7. (Amended) [A] The recording medium according to claim 3, wherein said form of the weak remaining intensity by which said management information is embedded in the content data [of said contents] is a form such that said management information is inserted into a high-order coefficient at the time when the content data [of said contents has] have been compressed.

--8. (Amended) [A] The recording medium according to claim 3, wherein among said plurality of management information, a managing condition of the management information embedded in the form of the strong remaining intensity by which said management information is embedded in the content data [of said contents] is [severer] more severe than that of the management information embedded in the form of the weak remaining intensity by which said management information is embedded in the content data [of said contents].

--9. (Amended) [A] The recording medium according to claim 8, wherein when said management information is copy management information, the management information embedded in the form of the strong remaining intensity by which said management information is embedded in the content data [of said contents] is a managing condition showing ["] that copy is impossible["].

--10. (Amended) [A] The recording medium according to claim 8, wherein when said management information is reproduction management information, the management information embedded in the form of the strong remaining intensity by which said management information is embedded in the content data [of said contents] is a managing condition showing ["] that reproduction is impossible["].

--11. (Amended) A recording method for a recording medium in which, when content data [of contents] is recorded into the recording medium, at last one of a plurality of management information [such that] with a managing condition [of at least one of said management information] that is [severer] more severe than those of the other management information are embedded and recorded into the content data of [said contents] in a plurality of forms of different remaining intensities.

--12. (Amended) [A] The recording method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 11, wherein said management information includes at least one [kind between] of copy

management information for managing a copying operation of the data of said contents and reproduction management information for managing a reproducing operation of one of the data of said contents [or] and said recording medium.

--13. (Amended) [A] The recording method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 11, wherein said management information is embedded and recorded in the content data [of said contents] in a form of a strong remaining intensity by which said management information remains [even if] when a signal process is executed to the content data [of said contents] and in a form of a weak remaining intensity by which said management information is erased by executing [the] a signal process to the content data [of said contents].

--14. (Amended) [A] The recording method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 12, wherein by performing a spread-spectrum process to said management information and multiplexing and recording the resultant management information into the content data [of said contents], said form of the strong remaining intensity is realized.

--15. (Amended) [A] The recording method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 12, wherein said management information is inserted at one of a first peak [or said] and a second peak in a predetermined range of the data of said contents or at a position near one of said first [or] and second peak,

thereby realizing said form of the strong remaining intensity.

--16. (Amended) [A] The recording method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 12, wherein said management information is inserted into lower bits of the content data [of said contents], thereby realizing said form of the weak remaining intensity.

--17. (Amended) [A] The recording method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 12, wherein said management information is inserted into a high-order coefficient at [the] a time when the content data [of said contents] has been compressed, thereby realizing said form of the weak remaining intensity.

--18. (Amended) [A] The recording method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 12, wherein among said plurality of management information, a managing condition of the management information embedded in the form of the strong remaining intensity by which said management information is embedded in the content data [of said contents] is [severer] more severe than [that] a managing condition of the management information embedded in the form of the weak remaining intensity by which said management information is embedded in the content data [of said contents].

--19. (Amended) A recording method for a recording medium,

comprising the steps of:

adding first management information to input content data [of inputted contents];

adding second management information whose remaining intensity is weaker than [that] a remaining intensity of said first management information to the content data [of said contents] to which said first management information has been added; and

performing a recording signal process [for recording to] on the content data [of the contents] to which said first and second management information have been added, and recording [the] resultant data into the recording medium.

--20. (Amended) [A] The recording [metho0d] method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 19, wherein a managing condition by said first management information is [severer] more severe than [that] a managing condition by said second management information.

--21. (Amended) [A] The recording method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 20, wherein when each of said first and second management information is copy management information, the managing condition by said first management information is a managing condition showing ["] that copy is impossible["].

--22. (Amended) A recording and/or reproducing method for

a recording medium, comprising the steps of:

reading out content data [of contents] from the recording medium in which at least first management information and second management information whose remaining intensity is weaker than [that] a remaining intensity of said first management information have been embedded and recorded in the data of said contents, and discriminating whether said second management information has been detected [or not; and]; wherein

when it is determined that said second management information has been detected, a recording [and/or] and reproducing operation [is] are controlled based on [the basis of the] managing condition shown by said second management information.

--23. (Amended) [A] The recording and/or reproducing method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 22, wherein when it is determined that said second management information is not detected, the recording and/or reproducing operation [is] are controlled based on [the basis of] said first management information.

--24. (Amended) [A] The recording and/or reproducing method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 22, wherein the managing condition by said first management information is [severer] more severe than [that] a managing condition by said second management information.

--25. (Amended) A recording and/or reproducing method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 24, wherein

when each of said first and second management information is copy management information, the managing condition by said first management information is a managing condition showing ["] that copy is impossible["], and

when it is determined that said second management information has been detected, the recording operation is controlled based on [the basis of] said second management information, and when it is determined that said second management information is not detected, the recording operation is inhibited based on [the basis of] said first management information.

--26. (Amended) [A] The recording and/or reproducing method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 24, wherein

when each of said first and second management information is reproduction management information, the managing condition by said first management information is a managing condition showing ["] that reproduction is impossible["], and

when it is determined that said second management information has been detected, the reproducing operation is controlled based on [the basis of] said second management information, and when it is determined that said second management information is not detected, the reproducing operation is inhibited based on [the basis of] said first management information.

--27. (Amended) A recording and/or reproducing method for a recording medium, comprising the steps of:

reading out content data [of contents] from the recording medium in which at least first management information and second management information whose remaining intensity is weaker than [that] a remaining intensity of said first management information have been embedded and recorded in the content data [of said contents], and discriminating whether said first management information has been detected [or not];

discriminating whether said second management information has been detected [or not]; and

when it is determined that said second management information has been detected, controlling a recording and/or reproducing operation based on [the basis of] a managing condition shown by said second management information.

--28. (Amended) [A] The recording and/or reproducing method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 27, wherein when it is determined that said second management information is not detected, the recording and/or reproducing operation is controlled based on [the basis of] said first management information.

--29. (Amended) [A] The recording and/or reproducing method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 27, wherein when it is determined that said first management information is not detected, the recording and/or reproducing operation is

controlled based on [the basis of] said second management information.

--30. (Amended) [A] The recording and/or reproducing method for a recording medium according to claim 27, wherein when it is determined that neither said first nor second management information is detected, the recording and/or reproducing operation is controlled based on [the basis of] additional information added to the content data [of said contents].

--31. (Amended) [A] The recording and/or reproducing method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 27, wherein a managing condition by said first management information is [severer] more severe than [that] a managing condition by said second management information.

--32. (Amended) [A] The recording and/or reproducing method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 31, wherein

when each of said first and second management information is copy management information, the managing condition by said first management information is a managing condition showing ["] that copy is impossible["], and

when it is determined that said second management information has been detected, the recording operation is controlled based on [the basis of] said second management information, and when it is determined that said second management information is not detected, the recording operation

is inhibited based on [the basis of] said first management information.

--33. (Amended) [A] The recording and/or reproducing method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 32, wherein when said second management information indicates a managing condition which permits a copy of the content data [of the contents] read out from said recording medium, the recording operation regarding [the] a copy of the content data [of said contents] is controlled based on [the basis of] said second management information, and said second management information which is added to said content data [of the contents] to be copied is rewritten to the managing condition showing ["] that copy is impossible["].

--34. (Amended) [A] The recording and/or reproducing method for [the] a recording medium according to claim 31, wherein

when each of said first and second management information is reproduction management information, the managing condition by said first management information is a managing condition showing ["] that reproduction is impossible["], and

when it is determined that said second management information has been detected, the reproducing operation is controlled based on [the basis of] said second management information, and when it is determined that said second management information is not detected, the reproducing operation is inhibited based on [the basis of] said first management information.

--35. (Amended) A copy control method [of] for content data [of contents], the method comprising the steps of:

discriminating whether second management information has been detected [or not] from the content data [of the contents] in which at least first management information and the second management information whose remaining intensity is weaker than [that] a remaining intensity of said first management information have been embedded [or not]; and

when it is determined that said second management information has been detected, controlling a copying operation of the data of said contents based on [the basis of] a managing condition shown by said second management information.

--36. (Amended) [A] The copy control method [of the] for content data [of the contents] according to claim 35, wherein when it is determined that said second management information is not detected, the copying operation of the data of said contents is controlled based on [the basis of] said first management information.

--37. (Amended) [A] The copy control method [of the] for content data [of the contents] according to claim 35, wherein a managing condition by said first management information is severer than that by said second management information.

--38. (Amended) [A] The copy control method [of the] for content data [of the contents] according to claim 35, wherein

when each of said first and second management information is copy management information, the managing condition by said first management information is a managing condition showing ["] that copy is impossible["], and

when it is determined that said second management information has been detected, the copying operation of the data of said contents is controlled based on [the basis of] said second management information, and when it is determined that said second management information is not detected, the copying operation of the content data [of said contents] is inhibited based on [the basis of] said first management information.

--39. (Amended) [A] The copy control method [of the] for content data [of the contents] according to claim 38, wherein when said second management information permits the copy of the content data [of said contents], the copying operation of the content data [of said contents] is permitted based on [the basis of] said second management information, and said second management information which is added to said content data [of said contents] which is copied is rewritten to a managing condition for inhibiting the copy of the content data [of said contents].

--40. (Amended) A reproducing apparatus [of] for reproducing a recording medium, comprising:

a head for reading out content data [of contents] from the recording medium in which at least first management information

and second management information whose remaining intensity is weaker than [that] remaining intensity of said first management information have been embedded and recorded;

a signal processing unit for performing a signal process to the content data [of said contents] read out from said recording medium by said head;

a switching circuit unit to which an output signal from said signal processing unit is supplied;

a detecting circuit for detecting said second management information from the content data [of said contents] read out from said recording medium by said head; and

a discriminating circuit to which a detection result by said detecting circuit is supplied and which controls an on/off operation of said switching circuit unit based on [the basis of] a managing condition shown by said second management information when the detection result showing that said second management information has been detected by said detecting circuit is supplied thereto.

--41. (Amended) [A] The reproducing apparatus [of the recording medium] according to claim 40, wherein when it is determined that said second management information is not detected, the on/off operation of said switching circuit unit is controlled based on [the basis of] said first management information.

--42. (Amended) [A] The reproducing apparatus [of the

recording medium] according to claim 40, further comprising a converting unit to which the output signal from said signal processing unit is supplied and which converts said supplied output signal into an analog signal, and wherein said switching circuit unit has a first switching circuit to which the output signal from said signal processing unit is supplied and a second switching circuit to which an output signal from said converting unit is supplied.

--43. (Amended) [A] The reproducing apparatus [of the recording medium] according to claim 42, wherein when each of said first and second management information is copy management information, on/off operations of said first and second switching circuits are controlled based on [the basis of] a managing condition shown by said second management information, and when said second management information cannot be detected, said first switching circuit is turned off based on [the basis of] said first management information.

--44. (Amended) [A] The reproducing apparatus of the recording medium according to claim 42, wherein when each of said first and second management information is reproduction management information, on/off operations of said first and second switching circuits are controlled based on [the basis of] a managing condition shown by said second management information, and when said second management information cannot be detected, said second switching circuit is turned off based on [the basis

of] said first management information.